REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By this Response, Applicants are amending claims 1-4, 7, 10, 13, 15 and 16. Accordingly, claims1-16 are at issue. Applicants respectfully submit no new matter was added by these amendments.

The Examiner has objected to claim 16 because of an informality: Claim 16 cites dependence on the "Claim 16." Applicants have amended claim 16 to depend on claim 13. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit this objection is now moot.

The Examiner has rejected claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 15, as amended herein, further specifies that the communication bus of claim 13 is "CANOpen." The present disclosure clearly provides for the bus being CANOpen: "Each client node 12 is operably connected to the server node 14 via a communication bus 16, preferably CANOpen." (See Application, p. 3, lines 10-11). The "CANOpen" protocol is a well known protocol that "was designed for motion-oriented machine control networks, such as handling systems." (See http://www.can-cia.org/canopen/). Moreover, "now it is used in many various fields." *Id.* Applicants therefore respectfully submit one skilled in the art would be able to implement CANOpen into the invention of claim 15, and practice this invention based on the disclosure presented in the application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 15 complies with the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 7-11, 13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,404,460 to Thomsen et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1, as amended herein, is directed to a method for determining a location of a client node with respect to a server and assigning the network identifier to the client node in response to its location. The network identifier is assigned by the server.

Thomsen et al., discloses a method of configuring addresses to multiple I/O devices having a serial connection. However, unlike the method of claim 1, each I/O device of Thomsen et al., the I/O devices configure their own addresses. As set forth in column 6 of Thomsen et al.,

and referring to Figure 1 of Thomsen et al., upon power-up the last controller (reference number 14)

> recognizes its Serial In input is held low, and configures itself as EXCA
> Controller #0. It then begins to output a packet on its Serial Out output. . .This
> packet has . . . four bits of data, indicating that the next EXCA Controller is
> EXCA Controller #1. (Thomsen et al., col. 6, lines 6-13).

This process is repeated by the EXCA Controller #1 which indicates the next Controller down the line as "#2." (See Thomsen et al., col. 6, lines 13-25). Accordingly, the server of Thomsen et al., is not assigning network identifiers to the I/O devices.

Because Thomsen et al., does not disclose all of the limitations of claim 1, it cannot anticipate this claim. See *RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Data Systems, Inc.*, 730 F.2d 1440, 1444, 221 USPQ 385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1984) (Anticipation is established only when a single prior art reference discloses each and every element of a claimed invention.). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 1 as amended herein is patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claims 2 and 3 depend on claim 1, either directly or indirectly, and include each of its limitations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claims 2 and 3 are also patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claim 4, as amended herein, is directed to a method wherein a server assigns a network identifier to a client node based on its closeness to the server. Thomsen et al., fails to disclose this method. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 4 is also patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claim 5 depends on claim 4 and includes each of its limitations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 5 is also patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claim 7, as amended herein, is directed toward a medium readable by a programmable device that includes a first segment for determining a location of the client node and a second segment for assigning the network identifier to the client node by the programmable device. As set forth above, Thomsen et al., does not disclose a programmable device assigning the I/O devices with a network identifier. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 7 is also patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claims 8 an 9 depend on claim 7, either directly or indirectly, and include each of its limitations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claims 8 and 9 are also patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claim 10, as amended herein, is also directed to a method that includes assigning a network identifier to a client node by the server. As set forth above, Thomsen et al., fails to disclose this. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 10 is also patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claim 11 depends on claim 10 and includes each of its limitations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 10 is also patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claim 13, as amended herein, requires the network identifier to be assigned by the server. As set forth above, Thomsen et al., fails to disclose this. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 13 is also patentable over Thomsen et al.

Claim 16 indirectly depends on claim 13 and includes each of its limitations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 16 is also patentable over Thomsen et al.

The Examiner has rejected claims 6, 12, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomsen et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,980,078 to Krivoshein et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 6 indirectly depends on claim 1 and includes each of its limitations, claim 12 indirectly depends on claim 10 and includes each of its limitations, and claims 14 and 15 depend on claim 13 and include each of its limitations. As set forth above, Applicants respectfully maintain claims 1, 10 and 13 are patentable over Thomsen et al. Krivoshein et al. fails to cure the deficiencies of Thomsen et al. Accordingly, for the reasons given above regarding claims 1, 10 and 13, Applicants respectfully submit claims 6, 12, 14 and 15 are patentable over Thomsen et al., in view of Krivoshein et al.
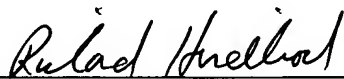
CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit pending claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if there are any questions concerning this Response.

The Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit Deposit Account No. 23-0280 for any payment **deficiencies or overpayments** associated with this matter.
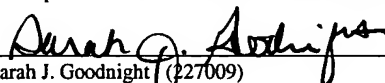
Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 21, 2005

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 21, 2005.

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